



CAMP TYLER
FOUNDATION
the nature of discovery

The Camper's Guide

Quality Outdoor Education Since 1949

Camp Tyler Makes Preparations for First Summer Day Camp

This summer Camp Tyler is working with the Boys and Girls Club of East Texas to host its first summer day camp program at the facility, Camp Tyler Program Director Kathy Lagesse said.

Throughout June and July the camp grounds will be filled with children and youth learning and enjoying the outdoors. There are two day camp programs scheduled for the summer. The Minimum Impact/Maximum Leadership camp and the Eco Ag camp will allow children to experience five days of fun-filled learning .

Both day camp programs are

being funded by grants awarded by Food Fast and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation.

“Many kids would not be able to have a camp experience without the

help we get from our sponsors,” Lagesse said. “We are very fortunate that all this was made possible and that the children will be able to learn about the outdoors and just have fun this summer.”

The day camps will be offered weekly from June 15 to July 24. The Min/Max camp is for youth from ages 12 to 15. The camp will allow kids to take part in activities such as hiking, canoeing, fishing, astronomy, tent camping and more. At the

Eco Ag camp children from ages 8 to 11 will learn different skills including working with farm animals and making projects out of recycled materials.

Lagesse is hopeful the children attending the day camps will learn more than just outdoor skills.

“ My greatest wish for these kids is that they discover strengths of who they are,” Lagesse said. “I want them to be encouraged to develop their strengths and make positive choices in school and in the community.”



Local students enjoy a day at Camp Tyler at the end of the school year.

This Month at Camp Tyler

Texas Asthma Camp

June 14-20

Eco Ag Day Camp

June 15-19, June 22-26, June 29-July 3

Minimum Impact/Maximum Leadership Day Camp

June 15-19, June 22-26, June 29-July 3

Growing Together Diabetic Camp

June 21-27

Cherokee County Juvenile Services Camp

June 22-26

Sister Communities Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

June 28-July 4

Newly Donated Horses Excite Camp Tyler Workers, Children

Camp Tyler welcomed four new horses to the facility's 400-acre ranch last month, Camp Tyler Executive Director Alan Byboth said.

A few weeks ago Byboth received a phone call from the Humane Society of East Texas informing him that an anonymous party wanted to donate four horses to the camp. The owner of the horses made the donation to avoid possible neglect charges, Byboth said.

Including the new horses, Camp Tyler currently has fifteen horses, two donkeys, one miniature horse

and one mule. The horses are used for different activities including the horse riding program, which gives children the opportunity to learn basic horseback riding skills. The horses are also used for pony rides, trails and more advanced riding lessons for older children.

Byboth believes the new rescue horses will be a great addition to the camp.

"The best part is that they are young horses, only about six or seven years old," Byboth said. "Once they gain their weight back they will replace the older horses."

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Farm Manager Roberto Brenes takes care of the new horses.

Kissam Intermediate Wins PACT Grant

The family service agency Parents and Children Together recently awarded Kissam Intermediate School a \$50,000 grant to help fund activities for local parents and children.

The purpose of PACT is to get parents involved with their kids and what they are learning in school.

Camp Tyler is partnering with Kissam Intermediate to help plan and organize future PACT activities. Events will be held at both Kissam Intermediate and the Camp Tyler facility.

For more information about hosting events at Camp Tyler call 903-565-4475.

Camp Tyler Wrangler Attends CHA Event

In May Camp Tyler Farm Manager Roberto Brenes traveled to Ozark, Illinois to attend a training course offered by the Certified Horsemanship Association.

Brenes spent six days at the event and earned certification as a trail guide and trail guide instructor.

The CHA is a non-profit organization that educates horse riding instructors based on their individual level of knowledge and skills.

The organization offers various learning programs including horse and stable management, instructor and trail guide certification, teaching methods, safety standards and more.

According to Brenes, the CHA is the oldest and most recognized horsemanship association in the country. He believes the training he received there will not only help him, but also the rangers and kids he works with at Camp Tyler.

"A big part of the CHA training is safety," Brenes said. "When I was there I learned how to handle horses more safely and how to teach the kids to be safe too."

Brenes added that many of the topics the CHA teaches are valuable skills that people can take with them when they leave Camp Tyler.

For more information about the CHA visit www.cha-ahse.org.

Successful School Year for CTF

Since September Camp Tyler has educated approximately 2,000 students in outdoor education. The following groups attended Camp Tyler during the 2008-2009 school year:

TISD fifth grade students; Whitehouse fifth grade students; Chapel Hill third, fourth and fifth grade students; All Saints fifth grade students; home schooled children from the King's Academy; day programs for various elementary school children including Books Alive, Onion Economics, GPS Challenges and Farm Tours; weekend programs for children including the Boy Scouts Merit Badge Workshop, Heart Throbbers Jump Rope Competition, the Robert E. Lee theater department, Fishing Fun Basics, Earth Day and Fun Day.



"Look what I caught!" Student gazes at his fish during the Fishing Fun Basics course.



Children ride horses during the November Turkey Shoot celebration.



Right: Students collect and observe insects found in the camp's different habitats.



Above: Kids study the camp's water quality. Right: Mother and daughter participate in Earth Day.



Girls catch aquatic insects to determine the water quality of the Camp Tyler ponds.





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TISD Pre-School Children Help Make Camp Tyler Beautiful

Several students from Clarkston Elementary School visited the Camp Tyler grounds May 28 to take part in some fun-filled learning.

Ms. Cathleen Potichko's pre-school deaf education class planted

flowers outside Camp Tyler's Bradford Lodge and spent the rest of the afternoon by the lake.

The children go on a field trip about once a month to learn and of course, just have fun!

New Horses

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Byboth also added that Camp Tyler is accepting donations to help treat the rescue horses.

"We've had many people come forward and offer to help out," Byboth said. "We've received hay,

feed and offers to pay for veterinary bills."

If you would like to contribute to the new horses or the horse riding program please send donations to the Camp Tyler Foundation or call 903-565-4475.



"Look what I did!" Three-year-old Rylee Drumm plants flowers outside Camp Tyler's Bradford Lodge.